

## HONORING SIGCO, INC.

• Ms. SNOWE. Madam President, today I honor a small, privately owned manufacturing business from my home State of Maine with a remarkable dedication to serving the customer. SIGCO, Inc., of Westbrook is a glass and architectural metal fabricator and distributor that exemplifies Maine's stellar manufacturing leadership in this Nation.

As ranking member of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship and cochair of the Senate Task Force on Manufacturing, I constantly see the vital impact that manufacturing has on the health of our Nation's economy. Small companies like SIGCO are absolutely crucial to our Nation's manufacturing sector competing in a global environment, as they account for roughly 99 percent of American manufacturers. This is why we must encourage and support the development of our Nation's small- and medium-sized manufacturers, and underscore the numerous accomplishments of SIGCO and similar firms.

Established in 1986, SIGCO inherited a proud tradition of craftwork from Soule Glass Industries, a firm that preceded SIGCO as the local leader in quality glass manufacturing and metal fabrication. SIGCO has demonstrated impressive growth in its operations throughout its history, and, in particular, over the past 4 years, by expanding from 55 employees to 85 and relocating to a newly opened 60,000 square-foot manufacturing facility. SIGCO produces and distributes architectural glass, frameless entrances, shower enclosures, aluminum entrances, acrylic, polycarbonate, and glazing supplies. The company also offers a 5-year warranty on all sealed insulating glass units. SIGCO's target clientele are contract glaziers, retail glass shops, and window manufacturers throughout New England who have come to trust SIGCO for its unrivaled craftsmanship and customer service.

SIGCO has demonstrated a consistency in both performance and financial strength, traits that have anchored the company in its achievement. Proof of SIGCO's accomplishments came when U.S. Glass magazine recognized the firm as one of the most influential companies in the glass and metal industry, followed up by the magazine naming company president David McElhinny as one of the trade's most influential people. Mr. McElhinny's leadership has contributed greatly to SIGCO's remarkable expansion, and his years of experience provide the company with a tremendously knowledgeable voice at the helm.

SIGCO is also known for its sophisticated production process. To promote efficiency, the company uses two industrial-type cutting lines in its plant. That said, SIGCO also offers individualized products upon customer requests. SIGCO notably uses an advanced edging process that creates clean, ground, or seamed edges for the appropriate type of glass. On top of the

cutting and edging processes, SIGCO uses new, state-of-the-art equipment to drill holes and mill cutouts and notches. Additionally, SIGCO uses a convection tempering oven to perfect their heat-treated products. Among a select number of licensees of the DecoTherm process, which allows companies to decorate glass without screen printing or sandblasting, SIGCO can customize designs on glass products to provide quality and unique products to each customer. Finally, SIGCO is one of only five U.S. distributors of Tubelite storefronts and entrances.

As former British Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli poignantly observed, "The secret of success is constancy to purpose." SIGCO embodies Disraeli's definition of success by exhibiting a consistent dedication to its mission, as well as never sacrificing the excellence of its products as the company grows and expands. Proudly representing Maine's ongoing contribution to the manufacturing sector, SIGCO and its employees exemplify the hardwork and ingenuity for which Mainers are well-known. I wish David McElhinny and everyone at SIGCO the best, and look forward to their future endeavors.●

## RECOGNIZING JIM ADAMS

• Mr. SUNUNU. Madam President, today I recognize Jim Adams, a Pittsfield, NH, resident who recently retired from a 35-year career with the United States Postal Service.

After bravely serving his country for 4 years in the United States Navy, Mr. Adams began his postal career as a Manchester mail carrier in 1973. During his 10 years in this position, Jim personified the Postal Service maxim, "neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds," through many difficult New Hampshire winters, and unpredictable New England summers.

During this time, Jim took night classes and earned a degree in business management from New Hampshire College which, along with his dedicated work ethic, helped propel him through the ranks of the Postal Service.

After 3 years in the management ranks of local New Hampshire post offices, Jim spent time in both Syracuse, NY, and Washington, DC, learning the ins and outs of the Nation's second largest employer. In 1992, Jim was selected as the executive assistant to the Postmaster General, becoming the first person ever to rise all the way through the ranks from an entry level craft position to attain that post.

In 1997, Jim returned home to New Hampshire as the district manager for customer service and sales, and in 2003, when the New Hampshire and Vermont Districts merged, Jim assumed the responsibility for both States. During this time, he oversaw 7,000 employees as they worked to ensure more than 6 million pieces of mail arrived on time throughout both New Hampshire and

Vermont each day. In fact, over the last 4 years of his tenure, 98 percent of the mail in his district was delivered on time; and during the past 6 years, New Hampshire has earned the highest customer service ratings in the Nation. All the while, Jim improved the district's safety record from worst in the Nation to tenth best.

For all of Jim's success, his shining professional moment will be his leadership during the anthrax crisis that plagued the Nation shortly after September 11, 2001. His personal involvement in handling the crisis helped calm the fears of postal workers and citizens alike, and he helped us all get through the fear and distress that went hand-in-hand with this highly volatile bioterrorist attack.

Over the course of his career, Jim had the opportunity to meet five Presidents and play a role in the development of several well recognized commemorative stamps, including the World War II, Elvis, and POW/MIA stamps. From a local boy delivering mail with 3-cent stamps in 1973, to a district manager overseeing a \$500 million budget in 2008—I would say that is a career well done.

Jim's well rounded operations and managerial experience gave him a unique and comprehensive view of the organization, which he was able to put to work for the benefit of the millions of postal customers in his district.

I have known Jim and his wife Sandra for many years and am sure they are looking forward to many relaxing years together with their children and grandchildren. He has dedicated himself to public service staying true to the ideal of placing the needs of others before those of yourself. Now I join with so many others in extending warm wishes as they begin a well deserved retirement together.●

## MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:26 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 5813. An act to amend Public Law 110-196 to provide for a temporary extension of programs authorized by the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 beyond April 18, 2008.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, without amendment:

S. Con. Res. 71. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for the presentation of the Congressional Gold Medal to Michael Ellis DeBakey, M.D.

At 1:48 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate: